






MULTIPARAMETER ANALYSIS OF COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEIC ACIDS AND MORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES ON THE SAME SAMPLE

Patent number: EP1438398
Publication date: 2004-07-21
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Classification:
- international: C12Q1/68; G01N33/543; G01N33/574; C12Q1/68; G01N33/543; G01N33/574; (IPC1-7): C12N11/08; C12N9/92; C12P19/34
- european: C12Q1/68A4; G01N33/543D4; G01N33/574V2
Application number: EP20020795554 20021028
Priority number(s): WO2002US34397 20021028; US20010330669P 20011026; US20020369945P 20020404

Also published as:

 WO03035895 (A3)
 WO03035895 (A2)
 WO03035894 (A3)
 WO03035894 (A3)
 WO03035894 (A2)

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Abstract not available for EP1438398

Abstract of corresponding document: **WO03035894**

A highly sensitive assay is disclosed which utilizes a method for gene specific primed amplification of mRNA libraries from rare cells and rare transcripts found in blood. The assay allows detection of rare mRNA (10 copies/cell) found in 1 to 10 cells isolated through immunomagnetic enrichment. The assay is an improvement over multiplex PCR and allows efficient detection of rare coding sequences for circulating carcinoma cells in the blood. The methods are useful in profiling of cells isolated from tissues or body fluids and serves as an adjunct to clinical diagnosis of diverse carcinomas including early stage detection and classification of circulating tumor cells. Monitoring of nucleic acid and protein profiles of cells either in conventional or microarray formats, facilitates management of therapeutic intervention including staging, monitoring response to therapy, confirmation of remission and detection of regression.

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(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
1 May 2003 (01.05.2003)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 03/035894 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C12Q**
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/34397
- (22) International Filing Date: 28 October 2002 (28.10.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
60/330,669 26 October 2001 (26.10.2001) US
60/369,945 4 April 2002 (04.04.2002) US
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- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:**
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: MULTIPARAMETER ANALYSIS OF COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEIC ACIDS AND MORPHOLOGICAL FEATURES ON THE SAME SAMPLE

(57) Abstract: A highly sensitive assay is disclosed which utilizes a method for gene specific primed amplification of mRNA libraries from rare cells and rare transcripts found in blood. The assay allows detection of rare mRNA (10 copies/cell) found in 1 to 10 cells isolated through immunomagnetic enrichment. The assay is an improvement over multiplex PCR and allows efficient detection of rare coding sequences for circulating carcinoma cells in the blood. The methods are useful in profiling of cells isolated from tissues or body fluids and serves as an adjunct to clinical diagnosis of diverse carcinomas including early stage detection and classification of circulating tumor cells. Monitoring of nucleic acid and protein profiles of cells either in conventional or microarray formats, facilitates management of therapeutic intervention including staging, monitoring response to therapy, confirmation of remission and detection of regression.

WO 03/035894 A2